when combined with calomel, its operation was attended with a certainty, hardly inferior to that of jalap. The aqueous and spirituous extract of the root were likewise efficacious, and nearly in an equal degree. Preparations made from different parts of the herb possessed much less activity, the decoction of the leaves operating only as a diaphoretic, and that of the stalk producing no effect.

The late Professor Barton of Philadelphia, in his Collections toward a Materia Medica of the United States, speaks of this plant as a mild and good cathartic, sometimes operating as a diuretic and in large doses as an emetic.

My own experience with this plant has not been extensive, yet sufficient to satisfy me of its medicinal power. Where I have administered it, it has generally proved cathartic, a larger dose however being requisite for this purpose, than of jalap or aloes. It has sometimes failed to produce any effect, and I am inclined to believe that its efficacy is much impaired by age. Those who may incline to employ it, will do well to renew their stock annually, and to keep the powder in close stopped phials.

A dose of the bark of the root in powder is twenty or twenty five grains, and of the extract, a somewhat smaller quantity.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Triosteum perfoliatum, LIN. *sp. pl.* AITON, *Hort. Kew*, i. 234. —PURSH. i. 162.—Triosteum majus, MICHAUX, *Fl.* i. 107.—T. floribus verticillatis, sessilibus, GRONOV. 31.—Triosteospermum latiore folio, flore rutilo, DILLENIUS, *Elth. t.* 293. *f.* 378.

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SCHŒPF, 23.—BART. *Coll.* 29.

PLATE IX.

Fig. 1. *Triosteum perfoliatum.*

Fig. 2. *A flower separated.*

Fig. 3. *The corolla opened, shewing the stamens and style.*

Fig. 4. *The calyx.*

Fig. 5. *The fruit, crowned with the calyx.*

Fig. 6. *The same dissected to shew the three seeds.*

Fig. 7. *A seed.*

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